

NSC BRIEFING

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QUIET

- I. On 14 June Haiti acquired its seventh government in six months when Chief-of-Staff General Antoine Kebreau ousted self-proclaimed Provisional President Daniel Fignolé--now in exile in New York.
- A. New gov't is a 3-man junta headed by Kebreau, with all-officer cabinet.
- II. Fignolé's street mobs slow to react--took to streets on nights of 15-16 June.
- A. In bloody street fighting, army stamped out rioting, jailed many leaders.
- III. New gov't may have better chance than its six predecessors,
- A. Army is taking strong hand against all opposition.
- B. Junta and cabinet apparently favoring presidential candidate Duvalier.
1. Arresting leaders of groups supporting the other two main presidential aspirants--Déjoie and Jumelle.
- C. Gov't contains both blacks and mulattoes and represents the three main regions (racial antagonism and regionalism are additional factors in present mess).
- D. Fignolé forces weakened by loss of leaders; probably can't bring off threatened general strike, but may cause more riots.
- E. Most army officers appear to support Kebreau.
1. Fignolé adherents in enlisted corps kept in line by officers who control the arms and ammunition.
2. Former Chief-of-Staff Cantave, main divisive influence, also exiled.
- IV. Kebreau will not have clear sailing.
- A. More politicking for presidency most immediate threat.
- B. Haitian economy in sad shape, with gov't almost bankrupt.